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May 2012 Newsletter of the AGU Near-Surface Focus Group

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Recent announcements of interest to the NS community (conferences, academic positions, graduate student opportunities etc.) can be found at the AGU [NS-Focus Group Web Page](#).

AGU NS Membership as of May 2012:

Primary affiliation: 793 members; Secondary: 2881 members

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1. Announcement: AGU 2012 Fall Meeting important change of date to 3-7 December

The dates for AGU's 2012 Fall Meeting have been changed to Monday 3 December - Friday 7 December, with pre-meeting events and workshops scheduled for Sunday 2 December. Previously published deadlines will not change. Abstract and Town Hall Submissions will open on 12 June and will close on 8 August; and Registration and Housing will open on 12 July.

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2. Announcement: Near-Surface Focus Group young-scientist subcommittee (from Lu Pellerin)

The Near Surface Focus Group is proud to announce the establishment of a young-scientist subcommittee to ascertain and implement how best we can help young scientist as they begin their career. The chair Nedra Bonal, Sandia National Laboratories, will also serve on the NS FG executive committee. If you are young scientist please contact [Nedra](#)

[Bonal](#) or [Lu Pellerin](#) to become a member of the subcommittee and let us know how we can be of service to you.

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3. Reminder: SEG-AGU Hydrogeophysics Workshop (from Jan van der Kruk)

SEG-AGU Hydrogeophysics Workshop, 8-11 July 2012, Boise State University, Boise, Idaho, U.S.A.

Close to 70 abstracts were submitted for the SEG-AGU Hydrogeophysics Workshop. This workshop has been designed to address a wide range of current hydrogeophysical approaches for determining, predicting, and studying hydrologic properties and processes in both the saturated and unsaturated zones, at scales ranging from centimeters to watersheds. In order to promote discussion, all accepted abstracts will be presented as posters, with a 4 minute oral presentation as an introduction. After viewing of posters, all sessions will reconvene for a panel-led discussion. This workshop will provide a unique possibility for participants to exchange ideas about the advances in their work and discuss their results. The workshop will be limited to 80 participants.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of our Sponsors: U.S. National Science Foundation, Geometrics, GeoTomo, Mt. Sopris, Zonge Int'l, Vista Clara, Geotomographie, Sensors & Software, and Geonics. .

Registration Fees:

Student registration fee: \$95 for the first 20 students (with preference given to presenters), otherwise \$395. Regular registration fee: \$345 for the first 60 participants (with preference given to presenters), otherwise \$495. Note that the advanced registration opens after notification of acceptance (end of April) and the deadline is 7 June 2012. Late registration fee is \$595.

The preliminary program will be online by 15 May. For more information, visit the [SEG-AGU 2012 Web site](#).

We are looking forward to seeing you in Boise.

Rosemary Knight, James Irving, Rob Jacob, Lee Liberty, Kamini Singha, and Jan van der Kruk.

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4. Report from SAGEEP, 25-29 March, Tucson, Arizona (from Bruce Smith)

The 2012 SAGEEP (Symposium on the Application of Geophysics to Engineering and

Environmental Problems) meeting convened by the Environment and Engineering Geophysical Society was well attended with 340 attendees from 16 countries, bringing together members of the academic and engineering community in four concurrent daily sessions with 210 oral presentations and 31 posters. The AGU NSFG had two joint sessions with EEGS: Lee Slater chaired 'Advances in the Geophysical Characterization and Monitoring of Fractured Rock Aquifers' captured recent developments of ground penetrating radar to solute transport in discrete fractures, regularization constraints for the development of an informed inversion of electrical geophysical datasets in a fractured rock aquifer, and the use of a wrapped fiber optic distributed sensing (DTS) cable for determining flow from fractures into and out of boreholes. Kristina Keating and Elliot Grunewald lead a session on 'Development and Application of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Techniques for Near-Surface Investigations'. Twelve presentations covered both theory and application in estimation of water content and hydrologic properties of rocks in a wide variety of complex hydrogeologic settings. Two days of short courses on Multi-Channel Analysis of Surface Waves (MSAW), held prior to the conference, were well attended by industry and academia. Following the conference a hot topic workshop on hydrofracturing, jointly organized with the AAPG Division of Environmental Geology, included an overview by Chip Groat (former USGS director and Jackson Chair in Energy and Mineral Resources UT Austin) and 15 technical presentations including an expansion of a presentation on microseismic applications given at the Fall AGU meeting.

SAGEEP 2012 keynote speaker William Debuys, author, conservationist and Guggenheim Fellow, surveyed the climate-driven environmental changes to which Southwestern will need to adapt. Adam Pidlisecky received the Geonics Early Career Award and gave a fascinating luncheon talk entitled "'Geophysics for Improved Understanding, Design and Operation of Managed Aquifer Recharge". Collaboration between EEGS and the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG) Geoscientists without Borders program continues and was highlighted at a luncheon where Madeline Dana Lee, PhD student at McMasters University, described her work in South Africa helping a local school develop critical water supplies. Access to the program and abstracts can be found on the [EEGS Web site](#).

The annual SAGEEP meeting continues to grow though the collaboration with the AGU NSFG, SEG and other with interest in near surface geophysical. Members of AGU NSFG are strongly encouraged to consider participating in SAGEEP 2013 in Denver, Colorado. The call for session proposals will be out by early May and posted on the EEGS web site. [Mike Powers](#), general chair, and [Bruce Smith](#), technical chair, welcome your suggestions concerning SAGEEP 2013.

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5. Reminder: 21st EM Induction Workshop, Darwin, 25-31 July 2012 (from Graham Heinson)

21st EM Induction Workshop, Darwin, 25-31 July 2012 :

I'd like to invite all members of the AGU Near-Surface Focus Group to the [21st EM Induction Workshop](#). The Workshop is the premier event for researchers around the world to exchange latest developments in the field of geophysical-electromagnetism. The Workshop is important for both the international research community and for sectors of industry and government that use EM methods for mineral, petroleum and geothermal energy exploration, groundwater and environmental resource evaluation, geohazard monitoring and many other applications. This will be the first time the Workshop has been held in Australia, and follows prior Workshops in Cairo in 2010 and Beijing in 2008.

The Workshop will be held over seven days, from 25-31 July 2012. Each morning a single stream of talks focuses on developments in EM induction, with review papers from invited, internationally-acclaimed scientists. Each afternoon is dedicated to a set of often robust discussions over more than 200 posters on recent developments and latest controversies. Saturday, 28 July, will be a social day where all participants jump on a bus charter to the Litchfield National Park. Additionally, one evening we will visit the world-famous Mindil Beach Markets to watch the sunset over the ocean. On another evening the Darwin Deckchair Cinema will be ours for a movie night. These social events are as much a part of the meeting and the learning process as the more formal presentations and discussion.

A key part of the Workshop is the [invited reviews](#) from a range of acclaimed international scientists who are experts in their fields. These invited reviews provide a unique opportunity to hear the state-of-the-art in EM methods and applications. As in previous Workshops, these reviews will later be published in *Surveys in Geophysics*.

- Distortion and Phase Tensors: John Booker, University of Washington, USA
- Petrophysics: Anne Pommier, MIT, USA/Arizona State University, USA
- Joint Inversion: Eldad Haber, UBC, Canada
- High performance computing: Greg Newmann, Lawrence Berkeley National Labs, USA
- Groundwater and Airborne EM : Esben Auken, University of Aarhus, Denmark
- Geothermal Exploration: Gerard Munoz, Potsdam, Germany
- Petroleum Exploration: Kurt Strack, KMS Technologies - KJT Enterprises Inc, USA
- Mineral Exploration: Richard Smith, Laurentian University, Canada
- Tectonics: Kate Selway, University of Adelaide, Australia, and Yale, USA
- Anisotropy: Anna Marti, University of Barcelona, Spain

Darwin, in the northern part of Australia, is a wonderfully exotic destination for the Workshop in July 2012. Located about half-way between Singapore and Sydney, the dry-season in July offers temperatures of 20-30 °C in a tropical setting. This multicultural, young city has a population of 77,000, and offers fantastic opportunities for delegates to experience cultural, wildlife and sporting activities.

This event is proudly held under the auspices of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG), International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA) and is hosted by the Australian Society of Exploration Geophysicists (ASEG).

[Deadline for Abstracts is 1 May](#); we look forward to seeing many of you in Darwin for the 21st EM Induction Workshop. Delegates, particularly students and early career scientists can also apply for [financial support to attend the workshop](#); deadline is 1 April but this may be extended a few days.

Sincerely,

[Graham Heinson](#)

LOC Chair for the 2012 EM Induction Workshop  
University of Adelaide

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6. Open positions:

6.1. Tenurable Lectureship in Geophysics at the University of Adelaide, Australia (from Graham Heinson)

School of Earth and Environmental Sciences  
University of Adelaide, Adelaide, Australia  
[Job Reference Number: 17302](#)

An exciting opportunity exists for a Tenurable Lecturer (Level B) to join the Geology and Geophysics group in the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences to complement our existing teaching and research strengths. We invite applications from candidates across the field of geophysics related geoscience.

The University of Adelaide's Geology and Geophysics group has a dedicated and dynamic group of staff. It is one of the largest geosciences academic groups in the country and receives strong support from industry and government. As one of Australia's premier teaching and research groups in geosciences, we invite applications from candidates across the field of geoscience, but are particularly interested in applicants who can develop and apply electrical geophysical techniques to resource exploration and exploitation and provide a link between research disciplines in geology, geophysics and environmental geoscience. The successful appointee will have both a strong field-based and laboratory-based research background. While the preferred area of expertise is electrical geophysics, candidates in other areas of geophysics are also strongly encouraged to apply.

The position has an academic focus and candidates are expected to provide evidence of strong performance in, and a commitment to teaching. The successful applicant will be required to contribute substantially to undergraduate teaching by undertaking course development and coordination, and in leading field excursions.

The successful candidate will also have a record of high-impact, international research as demonstrated by peer-reviewed journal articles and other evidence of standing in the research community. He/she will be expected to apply for competitive external funding and attract and train PhD students.

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To contribute material to the NS-letter send an e-mail to:

[Xavier Comas](mailto:Xavier.Comas)

DEADLINE: Material must be received 2 full business days prior to the first of each month.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS: All members are welcome to submit content of interest to the NS community. Please keep messages brief and provide contact information and (if available) a web address for additional information. AGU requests formatting of e-mail messages to be as simple as possible (no bold characters (use ALL CAPS instead), no color font, or other special formatting of text and paragraphs). E-mail attachments cannot be distributed.



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